

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Street Light Petitions:

1. The property owner lives out of town, can I fax/email them a copy of the petition and have them return it by fax/email once they have signed it and have their signature count?

Answer: Yes. You can even mail them a copy and have them return it to you via postal mail, email or fax. Simply attach the returned copy or copies to your original petition. Do not return an incomplete petition and ask the people you have faxed or mailed to return it to the City. It is your responsibility as the petitioner to collect all copies of signatures required and submit at one time.

2. Can a renter sign the petition?

Answer: No. It has to be the property owner or other person with a legal right to sell the property.

3. I am collecting signatures for a neighborhood. Mr./Mrs. _____'s property is listed on multiple petitions, does he/she have to sign each petition?

Answer: Yes. If the same property is listed on multiple petitions it is a parcel which touches more than one street and they have the right to deny street lights on one street while allowing street lights on the other street. Thus they have to sign each petition or the one left unsigned will not be counted. *An example of this would be:* Mr. Joe Doe living at the intersection of Bank St and Church St. Mr. Doe would have to sign the petition for both Bank St and Church St to have his signature count for both streets.

4. One person owns multiple parcels within the same street/block does the owner have to sign each and every line on that street/block's petition?

Answer: No, one signature per petition is acceptable. *Example:* Mr. Joe Developer owns three parcels on Imaginary Drive. The petition is for the full length of Imaginary Drive. He can sign on one line and it will count for all three of his parcels.

5. The owner is deceased, who can sign?

Answer: The person that is handling the estate can sign. In this case please note on the petition who is signing in the place of the owner.

6. The owner is elderly and cannot sign the petition, how can I get it signed if they consent?

Answer: We will accept the signature from their power of attorney. A power of attorney's know how to properly sign their name to acknowledge their role. It can't be just their signature.

7. The owner information in the petition is incorrect and the property now belongs to a new owner(s), what do I do?

Answer: Mark through the previous owner(s)'s name then in a space where there is room neatly write in the new owner(s)'s name. Have them to sign the line next to their property's address. Once I receive the completed petition I will verify this through Rowan County.

8. The owner has changed her/his name (because of a marriage, divorce, etc.) but has not changed it on their deed, what needs to be done to ensure their signature is accepted?

Answer: You may mark through their name and in a space where there is room neatly write their new name and note that it is merely a name change and not a new owner. They will sign the petition on the line beside their property address. I will verify through Rowan County.

9. Will the lights be on a wooden pole or decorative poles?

Answer: If the petitioner does not request decorative street lighting, and City codes do not require decorative lighting, we will install our standard light fixture for that area on a wooden pole. If it is in a historic district it has to be a specific type fixture or the request has to go before HPC (Historic

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Preservation Commission) for approval and applicable fees may be applied to a responsible party. The petitioner has to request decorative fixtures before the petitions are drawn up. If the petitioner requests decorative fixtures they need to understand that these will be installed only once an agreement for a payment is reached and a contract is signed as the City of Salisbury has to charge for the added costs of materials (referred to as a Decorative Adder Fee) which includes applicable taxes. This amount is predefined by Duke Energy and their prices are subject to change.

For areas where there are multiple blocks (for example: 100- 300 blocks of Church St.) that have requested petitions, we will create individual petitions for each block. Once they come back, we can combine these petitions into one project. We do this because some blocks may not want to participate at all while the other blocks do want to participate. If we combine the petitions in the beginning as one, we cannot separate them. We cannot combine blocks that are not in sequence with the other (example: 100 and 500 block of Church St.)

If you have questions about this process of who needs to sign what or who can sign, please contact me as the question arises and do not wait until you are returning the petition to me. As waiting to ask the question can cause more frustrations.

Sincerely,

Vickie Eddleman
City of Salisbury
Street Lighting Technician &
Traffic Engineering Coordinator
704-638-5213